liberty to pay higher cane price than SMP as per their financial results, subjects to the fulfillment of NABARD's conditipns regarding restructuring of term loans. The first instalment is in line with the payment of SMP under Sugarcane (Control) Order and guidelines of NABARD for the restructuring package.

Protection and Conservation of Ramsar sites

1099. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) how many lakes in kerala are identified as wetland ecosystems under 'Ramsar Sites' along with details thereof;

(b) whether Government have charted out/propose to implement any specific programme to undertake the protection and conservation of those 'Ramsar Sites'; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Three lakes in Kerala, namely, Ashtamudi (esturaine wetland—61,400 hectare,) Sasthamkotta (freshwater wetland—373 hectare), both from Quillon district and Vembanand (backwaters in Cochin—1,51,250 hectare) have been identified as Ramsar sites.

(b) and (c) Various conservation activities have been proposed for conservation of Ashtamudi and Sasthamkotta wetlands which include agro-forestry, weed control, fisheries development, pollution abatement, plantation, joint forest management and education awareness. After receiving Management Action Plans for various activities from State Govt, for these identified wetlands, an amount of Rs. 64.45 lakhs and Rs. 36.85 lakhs respectively have been released for Ashtamudi and Sasthamkotta wetlands during 2001—2005.

Increase in hazardous waste units

1100. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is an increase of hazardous waste units in the country and there is no proper check on them;

(b) whether the State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Centres have been asked to submit their reports about implementation of Government order on hazardous waste units; and